



BOROUGH OF BOSTON
AND
BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

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|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1. <u>Dr. Didsbury</u> | <u>C.407</u> |
| 2. <u>Mr. Morley Parry</u> | A.419 |
| 3. <u>Mr. Perry</u> | A.405 |

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the year 1965.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

At 1st January, 1965.

Councillor B. J. Veal,
Chairman.

Councillor J. Brockelsby,
Vice-Chairman.

The Mayor, Councillor B.
Eyre, J.P.

Alderman Mrs. Alice S.
Johnson, J.P.

„ Mrs. B. M. Roe,
J.P.

„ J. P. Roe

„ C. Valentine

„ Mrs. E. M.
Valentine

Councillor J. H. Dell

„ R. A. Dilley

„ M. Emmitt

„ N. O. Haworth

„ E. B. Willis, J.P.

After 24th May, 1965.

Councillor B. J. Veal,
Chairman.

Councillor J. Brockelsby,
Vice-Chairman.

The Mayor, Alderman R. G. M.
Moulder, J.P.

Alderman Mrs. Alice S.
Johnson, J.P.

„ Mrs. B. M. Roe,
J.P.

„ J. P. Roe

„ C. Valentine

„ Mrs. E. M.
Valentine

Councillor J. H. Dell

„ F. A. J. Foster

„ N. O. Haworth

„ Norman H. Hughes

„ E. B. Willis, J.P.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health and Port Medical Officer of Health :

G. HIRD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Port Health Inspector :

G. E. CHAMBERLAIN, M.A.P.H.I.

**Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Port Health
Inspector :**

D. H. MILSOM, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector and Port Health Inspector :

C. E. THOMSETT, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.

Meat Inspector :

A. T. FAIRGRIEVE,

Scottish Cert. Insp. of Meat and Other Foods.

Chief Clerk :

D. DADY.

Junior Clerks :

R. A. BLANCHARD

M. M. GRANTHAM (Appointed 21st January, 1965.)

Typist (part-time) :

Mrs. N. HILDRED

(Appointed 4th January, 1965.)

BOROUGH OF BOSTON

AND

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

To :—**The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Boston.**

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the work of the Health Department and the general health conditions in the Borough for the year 1965.

The estimate of the mid-year population made by the Registrar-General was 25,090. The natural increase of the population that is to say the excess of births over deaths was 188. The corresponding figure of the estimated mid-year population 10 years ago was 24,300.

There were 465 births during 1965, 4 less than in the previous year. Of the 465 births 37 were illegitimate. This was 8 less than in the previous year. The Crude Birth Rate was 18.5 and after adjustment with the Comparability Factor issued by the Registrar-General, the Corrected Birth Rate was 18.7. The figure for England and Wales was 18.1. There were 8 Still Births during the year, 2 less than in 1964. This gave a Still Birth Rate of 16.9 which was higher than the National figure of 15.8. During 1965 there were 8 infant deaths under the age of 1 year, 4 fewer than in the previous year. This gave an Infant Mortality Rate of 17.2. The figure for England and Wales was 19.0. Of these 8 deaths 5 occurred in the first week of life and were all associated with conditions arising during pregnancy. The Perinatal Mortality Rate which is the number of Still Births plus the number of Deaths under 1 week was 27.5. The corresponding figure in 1964 was 39.7. When dealing with comparably small numbers in statistics it is invariable that the figures tend to fluctuate from year to year.

There were 277 deaths during 1965, 2 less than in the previous year. This gave an Adjusted Death Rate of 11.7 compared with 11.5 for England and Wales. 57 deaths were associated with malignant disease and of those 18 were due to lung cancer. This is precisely double the figure for 1964. Deaths from this cause will undoubtedly continue to increase so long as men particularly continue to smoke heavily. Bronchitis

is another killing disease and possibly the most helpful medical advice to all Bronchitics would be to stop smoking. Deaths from Cancer accounted for over 20% of all deaths. With regard to other causes, Heart and other Circulatory diseases again accounted for the greatest proportion, namely 48%.

Infectious diseases did not constitute much of a problem during 1965. Measles with 597 notifications was the most prevalent infectious disease and this was the highest number notified since 1959. There were 37 cases of Pneumonia notified, the highest since 1961. There were only small numbers of Chicken Pox and Scarlet Fever notified. There were 43 cases of Whooping Cough, a surprisingly high number in view of the large numbers of infants being immunised but outbreaks tend to occur from time to time.

There were 14 cases of Food Poisoning notified and 1 death resulted, a 6 week old baby. In each case investigations were made to try and trace the origin of the infection. In no case was this found though the causative organism was *Salmonella Typhimurium* in 10 of the cases. During the year an Order was made by the Council under the Public Health Act of 1936 adding Infective Hepatitis and Leptospirosis to the list of notifiable infections. This was done in order to enquire into and try and either discover the source of infection or prevent outbreaks occurring during the year. 2 cases of Infective Hepatitis were notified and investigated.

During the year 6 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified. 2 old cases were removed from the Tuberculosis Register leaving 148 on the list at 31st December, 1965.

During the year work on the West Side Sewerage scheme was completed and by the end of the year about one-third of the properties had been connected to the sewer. With the exception of one small area the town has now an efficient sewerage system.

There was an increase in the number of animals inspected during the year, 58,652 as against 54,774 in 1964. It was still necessary for this work to be done during the evening and at week-ends.

During the year there arose a disagreement regarding the medical inspection of employees of the East Lincolnshire Water Board and myself as Medical Officer of Health to the Corporation. There were four District Medical Officers involved in the area of the East Lincolnshire Water Board and there is no

official co-ordination between them regarding any medical details in respect of the Board's employees or public health matters which might have affected the water supply. This is hardly surprising as a District Medical Officer has no responsibility towards a Water Board. Some enlightened Boards, however, have appreciated the situation and appointed a part-time Medical Officer. This is of course, the obvious solution to the problem and it is a pity that the Ministry did not legislate for this at the time of the formation of Water Boards.

With regard to the Vital Statistics, one can say that the health conditions in the Borough were very satisfactory and compared very favourably with the figures for England and Wales. As usual the closest co-operation was maintained between the County Health Department, regarding infectious diseases in school children, and the Welfare Department in other matters. The Public Health Laboratory Service under the direction of Dr. Croll was again exceedingly helpful with regard to laboratory investigation and advice on various subjects.

The Inspectors and Clerical Staff maintained their usual high standards and were exceedingly helpful at all times. I should like also to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their unfailing courtesy and to the other Chief Officers and their staffs for the help and co-operation given in many ways during 1965. Mr. Chamberlain has combined to give me his help and advice in many matters based on his extensive knowledge of the district and for this I am most grateful.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Alderman and Councillors,

Your obedient servant,

G. HIRD,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
6 Bridge Street,
BOSTON, Lincs.
Telephone No. 4601 (six lines)
January, 1967.

Part I

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH.

GENERAL STATISTICS :—

Area (in acres)	3,259
Home Population (Registrar-General's mid-year estimate for 1965)	25,090
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1965 (according to the Rate Books)	8,839
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1966	£1,021,489
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (Est. 1966-67) ...	£4,060
Estimated average number of Persons per Inhabited House	2.8
Estimated average number of Persons per acre ...	7.7
Average number of Inhabited Houses per acre ...	2.7

SOCIAL CONDITIONS, ETC. :—

The social conditions of the area have remained unchanged during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS :—

Live Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	219	209	428
Illegitimate	15	22	37
Total Live Births	234	231	465
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (crude)	18.5		
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (adjusted)	18.7		
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births ...	7.9		
Still Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	5	3	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total Still Births	5	3	8
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...	16.9		

	Male	Female	Total
Total Live and Still Births	239	234	473

Infant Deaths

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	4	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>

Infant Mortality Rates :—

(a) All infants per 1,000 live births	17.2
(b) Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births	18.7
(c) Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	3	5
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births ...	10.7
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Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	3	5
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births	10.7
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Perinatal Mortality

	Male	Female	Total
Still Births and Deaths under 1 week	7	6	13
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and still births			27.5

Maternal Mortality

Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Nil
Deaths	Male Female Total
All Causes	151 126 277
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (crude)	11.0
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (adjusted)	11.7

OBSERVATIONS ON VITAL STATISTICS.

In the following comments on the Vital Statistics both the crude birth and death rates are given together with the rates after adjustment by the Comparability Factors. These factors have been supplied by the Registrar-General, and are intended to afford a means of adjustment to allow for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas. Consequently, the adjusted birth and death rates enable a more accurate comparison to be made with the corresponding rates in other areas.

It is also emphasised that undue significance should not be attached to rates which are based on very small numbers (e.g. infant mortality) and that a comparison of such rates with those in other areas, or with earlier years may have little statistical significance.

POPULATION :—

The Registrar-General's estimate of the home population for mid-1965 was 25,090, an increase of 30 on the figure given for the previous year which was 25,060. The number of births for the year exceeded the number of deaths by 188.

BIRTHS :—

There were 465 births during 1965, 219 male and 209 female. Of the total, 37 were illegitimate. The Adjusted Live Birth Rate was 18.7 compared with 18.1 for England and Wales.

STILL BIRTHS :—

There were 8 Still Births during 1965, 2 less than in 1964. This gave a Still Birth Rate of 16.9 which was slightly higher than the National figure of 15.8.

MATERNAL MORTALITY :—

There were no deaths from this cause during 1965.

INFANT MORTALITY :—

There were 8 deaths in infants under 1 year of age. Of these, 5 died in the first week of life. The Infant Mortality Rate was 17.2 which was much below the Rate of 25.6 in 1964. The figure for England and Wales was 19.0.

PERINATAL MORTALITY :—

This is a combination of Still Births and deaths occurring under 1 week. The total for 1965 was 13 giving a Rate for 1965 of 27.5. The National figure was 26.9.

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES :—

Deaths from all causes during 1965 amounted to 277. This gave a Crude Death Rate of 11.0 and an Adjusted Death Rate of 11.7. The figure for England and Wales was 11.5.

Birth Rates, Death Rates and Infant Mortality Rates in Borough of Boston, 1951—1965.

Year	No. of Births	Crude Birth Rates	No. of Deaths	Crude Death Rates	Infant Mortality Rates	Average 5 years		
						Birth Rates	Death Rates	Infant Mortality Rates
1951	424	17.4	278	11.4	30.7	16.8	10.8	29.8
1952	397	16.4	267	11.0	25.2			
1953	414	17.0	260	10.7	33.8			
1954	432	17.7	259	10.6	30.1			
1955	379	15.6	254	10.4	29.0			
1956	438	18.1	238	9.8	29.7	17.2	10.4	26.9
1957	429	17.9	204	8.5	25.6			
1958	401	16.6	262	10.8	37.4			
1959	390	16.1	275	11.3	25.6			
1960	429	17.5	286	11.7	16.3			
1961	416	16.7	278	11.2	16.8	17.7	11.0	20.8
1962	414	16.6	265	10.6	24.1			
1963	446	17.8	276	11.0	20.2			
1964	469	18.7	279	11.1	25.6			
1965	465	18.5	277	11.0	17.2			

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BOSTON M.B., 1965.

No.	Cause of Death.	Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	—	—
6.	Meningococcal Infections	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
8.	Measles	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	1	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	4
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	16	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	5
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	13
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1
16.	Diabetes	1	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	20	29
18.	Coronary disease, angina	30	11
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	1	4
20.	Other heart disease	11	17
21.	Other circulatory disease	7	4
22.	Influenza	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	11	10
24.	Bronchitis	9	5
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	1	—
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases ...	17	13
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	4	—
34.	All other accidents	3	—
35.	Suicide	—	3
36.	Homicide and operations of war	—	—
ALL CAUSES		151	126

METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS.

I am indebted to N. H. Middlebrook, Esq., Meteorologist, for the following summary of the weather conditions of the area for the past two years as recorded by him at the Meteorological Station, Freiston Road, Boston.

	1965	1964
Days of measurable rain	191	159
Mean Maximum temperature (average 56.5°)	55.7°	56.8°
Mean minimum temperature (air) (average 42.1°)	41.2°	41.9°
Mean day and night temperature (average 49.3°)	48.4°	49.3°
No. of days with temperatures between 70° and 79°	39	63
No. of days with temperatures 80° or over ...	1	7
No. of air frosts	65	61
No. of ground frosts	105	90
No. of days of snow or sleet	26	14
No. of days with thunderstorms	9	11
No. of days with fog	25	47
No. of days with winds reaching gale force ...	14	9

Total rainfall 31.11" against average of 23.88".

Total rainfall for 1964 : 20.49"

Greatest rainfall in one day : 1.39" on 8th September.

Highest day maximum temperature : 82° on 14th May.

Lowest night (air) temperature : 7° on 3rd March.

Lowest grass minimum 6° on 3rd March.

Highest barometer reading : 30.90" (1046 millibars) on 2nd February.

Lowest barometer reading : 28.70" (972 millibars) on 29th November.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH.

LABORATORY FACILITIES :—

Advantage has again been taken of the Public Health Laboratory Service at Lincoln. Samples of ice cream and water have been regularly submitted for examination and further details of this work will be found in Sections C. and E.

The Laboratories of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, London, have continued to carry out chemical examinations of water samples on behalf of the Department.

AMBULANCE SERVICE :—

This service is provided and maintained by the Holland County Council through the Ambulance and Transport Department, Allan House, Carlton Road, Boston.

During the year the following resources were available at the Boston Ambulance Station :—

- Emergency Ambulances 3.
- Infectious Diseases Ambulance 1.
- Car Type Transit Ambulances 2.
- Utility Ambulance 1.
- Sitting Case Cars 3.
- 14 seat "Minibus" 2.
- Station Officer 1.
- Wholetime Driver/Attendants 11.

All ambulances carry oxygen therapy apparatus and have been adapted to carry a portable incubator for small premature babies. A mechanical resuscitator is available for cases of drowning, asphyxiation, etc. Apparatus to carry out mouth to mouth resuscitation is also provided.

NURSING IN THE HOME :—

The home nursing service is under the control of the Local Health Authority.

PUBLIC MORTUARY :—

The Public Mortuary is managed by the Borough Engineer's Department. I am satisfied that the Mortuary is properly conducted and the facilities adequate.

HOSPITALS :—

All Hospitals in the area are under the control of the Boston Group Hospital Management Committee of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. Details of the facilities available in Boston and District are as follows :—

Boston General Hospital—Acute General.

London Road Hospital—General, Orthopaedic and Traumatic Surgery and Ophthalmic.

White House Hospital, Fishtoft—Infectious and Chest Diseases.

Wyberton West Hospital—Medical and Maternity.

Woodlands Court, Kirton—Aged Sick.

Freiston Hall Children's Hospital—Sick Children.

THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES :—

These services are provided by the Holland County Council.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS :—

The following clinics, etc., are conducted by the Holland County Council at Ferry House, London Road.

Infant Welfare.

Ante-Natal.

Ophthalmic.

Dental.

Speech Therapy.

Physically handicapped—special teaching.

Intelligence testing and medical examinations.

Mothercraft and relaxation classes.

The Cleansing Station continues to function at Ferry House and further details with regard to the arrangements for the treatment of Scabies will be found in Section F of this Report.

The Child Guidance Centre is in Tower Street.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. SECTION 47—REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION :—

No new cases requiring action under the above Section came to notice during the year.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES :—

These services are provided by the Holland County Council.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH.

WATER SUPPLY.

I am indebted to Mr. Ian A. Campbell, Engineer, East Lincolnshire Water Board for the following report on the Borough Water Supply :—

1. **Sources of Supply.** Although water may be delivered from other sources of supply North of Boston in times of emergency the main sources are as follows :—

- (a) Fordington (boreholes in the Spilsby Sandstone—Safe Yield 1 M.G.D.) in the Spilsby Rural District and 4 miles North of Spilsby and approximately 20 miles from Boston.
- (b) Revesby (Impounding Reservoir and Catchment Area approximately 2,000 acres—Safe Yield 0.3 M.G.D.) in the Horncastle Rural District and approximately 12 miles North of Boston, and
- (c) In Bulk from the mains of the South Lincolnshire Water Board (Supply points London Road, Wyberton Low Road and Fishtoft Road).

2. **Rainfall.** The rainfall recorded at Revesby during the year 1965 was 30.83" (Annual average 25.29").

Rainfall at Fordington in 1965 was 35.55".

3. Volume of Water Supplied in 1965 with comparison for 1964.

Volume of water supplied to the Borough during 1965 was slightly less than that supplied in 1964 and averaged 1,450,000 galls. a day.

With a population of 25,000, this equates to 58 gallons per head per day for all purposes, including waste, mains flushing, sewer flushing, etc. Unmetered consumption is estimated to equate to 37 galls. per head per day and metered (mainly trade) 21 ditto.

4. **Pressures** in the town mains remain sub-standard during "peak" periods, the general lack of storage in industrial premises and in the town generally continues to place great strain on the trunk mains and booster plant at the Horncastle Road Site.

Work on the construction of a 300,000 gallon reinforced concrete water tower 100 feet high on a site off Garfit's Lane/ London Road, commenced in the autumn of 1965. This tower will receive water from the South Lincolnshire Water Board and should be completed by Christmas 1966.

5. Extension of Mains during 1965.

Boston Borough.

Location.	Dia. Inches	Type Pipe	Length Yards	Remarks.
Off Brothertoft Road	4	A.C.	155	New Building Estates being developed by private enterprise.
Off Hesse Drive	4	A.C.	20	
Off Tower Road	4	A.C.	68	
King's Crescent	4	A.C.	46	
Monteith Crescent	2	P.V.C.	193	
Allington Garden/	4	P.V.C.	107	
Linden Way	3	P.V.C.	209	Supply for Industrial Estate.
Bedford Place/	4	P.V.C.	173	
Lord Nelson Field (off Liquorpond St.)				Extension of existing mains for link with South End over new bridge over River Haven.
High Street	9	C.I.	174	

Total 1145

6. Quality of Water.

- (i) The quality of water (from surface and underground sources) has been generally satisfactory throughout the year, although a number of complaints of discolouration have been received from consumers who receive water from the Revesby and Fordington sources, and a scheme is being prepared to remove the excess iron from the Fordington source.
- (ii) Monthly samples of the raw water and* treated water passing to supply at Revesby and Fordington have been submitted to the Public Analyst at Nottingham (Mr. E. Fogden, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.) and frequent samples of the water in the mains have been submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service at Lincoln for bacteriological analysis. No adverse reports have been received in respect of "treated water" passing to supply.

* Excluding those taken by The Chief Public Health Inspector, Boston. **Fluoride contents** in the Revesby

and Fordington waters are 0.23 and 0.38 p.p.m. respectively.

(iii) The water has no plumbo-solvent action.

7. Quantity of Water Available.

- (i) The supply during the year was satisfactory apart from the pressure limitations previously referred to.
- (ii) The proportion of the houses in the Borough supplied by standpipes and outside taps is relatively small and mainly confined to old parts of the town.

About 1% of the approximate 8,000 houses are without a piped water supply. For the purposes of this report, standpipes and yard taps are treated as piped supplies.

8. Works.

The Board's works (including reservoirs, pumping stations, pumping and treatment plant) at Revesby, Fordington and Horncastle Road, Boston, have been maintained in good condition.

I. A. CAMPBELL,
Engineer.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE :—

Work has been completed on the West Side Sewerage Scheme and to date about one third of the owners of properties have connected their premises to the system.

With the exception of Tattershall Road north of the railway line and a few outlying patches of development the whole town is now served by a reasonably efficient sewerage system.

A few of the older sewers still remain to be modernised and improved.

The possibility of improved methods of sewage disposal is also under consideration by the Council's Consulting Engineers, Binnie and Partners and a report is expected soon.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE SCHEMES :—

A regular weekly collection has been maintained. Salvage collections and sales continue to be very satisfactory and gross income for sales, trade refuse and tipping charges has risen from £8,937 to £9,850. Sales of waste paper were 805 tons compared with 753 tons in the previous year. Progress has been made with moving the Salvage Depot to the Refuse Tip. The building is complete and the new Handley-Lake Press and other machinery installed. As soon as fencing and other works are completed all salvage operations will be transferred from Freiston Road and some savings are anticipated.

Costs for the year ending 31st March, 1965 were :—

Collection	...	...	...	...	...	£27,922
Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	£3,604
						£31,526
Less Income	...	...	...	...	...	£9,850
						£21,676

SWIMMING BATHS :—

This is the third year that the new baths have been open and they continue to attract a large number of people. During the season 29 samples of water from the pool were sent for bacteriological examination and they were all reported as satisfactory. Undoubtedly the baths are a much needed amenity and should prove an asset to the town.

MEASURES AGAINST INFESTATION :—

(a) **Rodent Control :—**

Rodent and insect control is carried out on contract by disinfestation specialists. There was no serious rodent infestation during the year but the number of insect complaints increased somewhat.

The following table gives particulars of work carried out.

Year	No. of premises treated	No. of visits made
1963	176	366
1964	210	439
1965	211	276

(b) **Verminous Houses :—**

The number of premises treated for vermin is as follows :—

Bed Bugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fleas	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cockroaches, Ants, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	26

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION IN THE BOROUGH :—

The following information has been supplied by Mr. G. E. Chamberlain, the Chief Public Health Inspector, who is also responsible for the preparation of the remainder of this Section, Section D and much of Section E.

For the first time since 1958 the department has had a staff of four inspectors for the whole of the year and as a result a satisfactory amount of solid work has been carried out. Undoubtedly the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act took up most of our time and 303 premises received an initial inspection. In general little difficulty was found in enforcing the Act, the main difficulties being due to the inadequacy or awkwardness of the premises rather than the unwillingness of occupiers or owners to comply with our requests.

Slum clearance has been virtually at a standstill. No clearance areas were declared, only three demolition orders were made and two houses were closed. The demolition orders were in respect of houses which had previously been closed. Only thirteen houses were demolished and nineteen families were rehoused. In view of the fact that only one house was completed by the Corporation during 1965, the rehousing of nineteen families from unfit houses appears to be a creditable achievement. Unfortunately at the end of the year there were still 82 families living in condemned houses. The prospect for 1966 is little better as the only work in progress at the end of 1965 was on 12 maisonettes, 6 flats and 12 bed sitters, the high rents of which are unlikely to appeal to families from clearance areas. In addition, 9 bungalows were being built but these will be used to rehouse the occupants of 9 almshouses that have outlived their usefulness.

Meat inspection increased a little over the previous year but the amount of evening and weekend work was rather less. Charges for meat inspection continued to cause friction between the Council and the butchers and it is difficult to see why fixed charges should not be laid down by statute. This no doubt would still cause grumbling but at least it would leave no reason for argument.

A total of 489 complaints were received but nearly 300 of these related either to choked drains or to rat or mouse infestation, while complaints concerning a variety of insects accounted for a further 94. Only four complaints of noise were received and these all related to factory machinery and in particular to the operation of machinery late in the evenings. Unfortunately many sounds that go unnoticed during the daytime become an intolerable nuisance in the quiet of the evening and it is a great pity that in past years there were not the planning controls that could have prevented the growth of factories in the midst of houses.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR :—

	Inspections	Revisits and Routine Inspections
Housing Act	62	377
Overcrowding	7	—
Public Health Acts	69	446
Drainage	16	418
Dustbins	2	13
Caravan Act	1	209
Food Hygiene	2	208
Slaughterhouses (Structure)	—	10
Market Stalls	—	28
Factories	1	55
Clean Air Act	—	8
Smoke Observation	—	25
Noise Abatement Act	1	48
Visits to Dock	—	279
Vessels inspected	18	102
Dysentery and Food Poisoning	16	76
Infectious Diseases	7	18
Rat Infestation	7	22
Insect Infestation	3	15
Pet Animals Act	1	7
Licensing Act	2	13
Animal Boarding Establishment Act	—	2
Total	215	2379
Interviews	...	313
Number of visits to slaughterhouses	...	2575
Visits re unsound food	...	74
Miscellaneous	...	255

Samples Taken

Water :—

Public Supply	111
Swimming Baths	29
Other	2
	142
Ice Cream	14
Miscellaneous	15

Drains

Drains Tested	85
----------------------	----

Other Public Health Work

Disinfections	...	...	...	...	—
Disinfestations	...	...	...	...	2

OFFICE WORK :—

Informal Notices					Served	Complied with
Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	1	1
Public Health Acts, 1936 & 1961	...	...	...	...	46	21
Dustbin	...	...	...	...	3	3

Statutory Notices					Served	Complied with
Housing Act, 1957, Sect. 9	...	...	...	...	2	7
Public Health Acts, 1936 & 1961	...	...	...	...	20	21
Dustbin	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil
Conversions	...	...	...	...	Nil	5

NUISANCES REPORTED AND COMPLAINTS RECEIVED :—

Total number of complaints received ... 489

The following are details of complaints received and remedied :—

General Housing Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	33
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	...	3
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fleas, Beetles, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	10
Ants	...	...	...	...	...	15
Wasps' and Bees' Nests	...	...	...	...	...	69
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	197
Choked Drains and Sewers	...	...	...	...	...	100
Defective Drains	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	3
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	3
Noise Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	34
Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	11

NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS :—

Factories	...	...	...	...	...	2
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Premises	...	...	...	...	...	1

Other Items.

WATER :—

During the early part of August a few complaints of an unpleasant taste to the water were received. The cause was traced to the reservoir at Revesby where the weed had not been cleared with the customary speed. Samples showed that the water was chemically and bacteriologically safe and the trouble was rectified in a short time. The number of samples examined was as follows :—

Bacteriological	...	...	100
Chemical	...	...	11

Two of the bacteriological samples were reported as "suspicious" but immediate resampling at the same points produced satisfactory samples.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES :—

There are no registered common lodging houses in the town.

FACTORIES :—

Particulars of visits to factories are contained in the following tables.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1965 for the Borough of Boston in the County of Holland (Lincs.).

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	3	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	184	41	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	16	12	Nil	Nil
Total	206	56	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	5	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	9	1	Nil	1	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

Outwork.

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing Apparel : Making, etc.	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ..	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

OUTWORKERS' PREMISES :—

Only one outworker is registered and the premises are satisfactory. No case of infectious disease occurred on these premises.

SECTION D

HOUSING

Number of Houses erected in the Borough during the year :—

	Houses	Bungalows	Flats
(a) By private enterprise ...	24	52	—
(b) By the Council ...	1	—	—

Number under construction at the end of 1965 :—

	Houses	Bungalows	Flats
(a) By private enterprise ...	21	27	3
(b) By the Council ...	12	9	6
	(maisonettes)		+ 12 bed-sitters

SLUM CLEARANCE :—

The following tables show the progress made in rehousing and demolition.

REPAIR AND DEMOLITION :—

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE.

A Houses Demolished	In Clearance Areas.	Unfit for human habitation	9
	Not in Clearance Areas	As a result of action under section 16 or 17, Housing Act, 1957.	4
Number of dwellings included in above, previously reported as closed			2
B Unfit Houses Closed	Under sections 16(4) and 17(1) Housing Act, 1957.		2
	Parts of buildings closed under section 18, Housing Act, 1957.		Nil
C and D Number of Persons and Families Displaced		No. of Persons	No. of Families
	From houses in clearance areas	31	14
	From houses not in clearance areas	9	3
	From houses to be closed	6	2
E Unfit Houses made fit	After informal action by local authority	by owner	12
	After formal notice under Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957	(a) by owner	7
		(b) by local authority	Nil
	After formal notice under Public Health Acts		1
	F HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED (Other than unfit houses made fit) after formal notice under Public Health Acts		

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION :—

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed } Number inspected } All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :	4039	154	120	16617	37722	Nil
Whole carcases con- demned	5	23	10	93	207	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	693	98	13	480	4575	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tubercu- losis and cysticerci	17.3	78.6	19.2	3.4	12.7	—
Tuberculosis only :						
Whole carcases con- demned	1	—	—	—	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	—	259	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis	.09	—	—	—	.68	—
Cysticercosis :						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	18	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrig- eration	18	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Meat Destroyed

	Beef	Mutton	Pork	Total
Carcases whole with offal	39	93	208	340
Forequarters	12	19	49	80
Hindquarters	12	5	59	76
Plucks	—	95	129	224
Heads and Tongues	43	1	285	329
Livers	594	99	1110	1803
Lungs	169	—	3636	3805
Intestines	3	—	2	5
Miscellaneous	77	293	632	1002
Meat	20 lbs.	—	20 lbs.	40 lbs.

MILK AND OTHER FOODS :—

There has been a considerable increase in the number of food premises inspected, this being due in part to the fact that in appropriate cases inspections under the Food Hygiene Regulations were combined with inspections under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act. It is hoped that it will be possible to maintain more frequent inspections as this undoubtedly does influence the standard of hygiene.

During the year the following complaints relating to unsatisfactory foodstuffs were received :—

Complaint.	Report.
1. A piece of meat sold in a restaurant as chicken was thought to be rabbit.	Analysts report inconclusive but meat was probably turkey.
2. A can of peas contained one third peas and two-thirds water.	Due to interruption of supply of peas during filling of can. This should have been detected at the time.
3. Loaf of bread contained a nail.	Standard of hygiene in bakery satisfactory. No obvious source of nail.
4. Corned beef was a "funny colour".	Bacteriological tests showed meat to be fit for human consumption.
5. Packet of crumpets was mouldy.	Due to failure in stock rotation at wholesale depot.
6. Carton of cream contained piece of charred wood.	Wood must have been in carton when delivered to creamery for filling.

In none of these cases did the Public Health Committee institute proceedings, each one being dealt with by warning the person or persons responsible.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960 :—

The following table gives details of the premises to which the Regulations apply :—

	No. of Premises	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16	No. of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19.
Grocers and General Dealers	87	80	82	67
Hotels, Public Houses and Licensed Clubs	80	78	79	77
Butchers	28	26	27	27
Fried Fish Shops	20	18	18	16
Cafes, Restaurants, etc.	15	14	14	14
Bakers	14	14	14	12
Canteens	10	10	10	10
Confectioners	7	7	2	2
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	7	6	5	5
Off-Licences	4	4	—	—
Fishmongers	3	3	3	3
Ice Cream Manufacturers	2	2	2	2

ACTION UNDER REGULATION 20, MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949 :—

No action was necessary under the above Regulation during 1965.

FOOD POISONING :—

During the year there were 14 cases of food poisoning notified, involving 3 families. In one family there were 4 cases but no specific organisms were discovered though clinically they were all typical cases. In the second instance 2 families were involved and 10 cases occurred. These were due to *Salmonella Typhimurium*. A baby of 6 weeks died as a result of this infection. The source of infection was not found in spite of investigation.

ICE-CREAM :—

During the year there was an increase of two in the number of premises registered for the sale of ice-cream, but none for the manufacture. The results of samples submitted for bacteriological examination are given in the following table :—

Samples examined by the Methylene Blue Test.

Number of samples submitted	14
Number of samples classified Grade I	8
Number of samples classified Grade II	2
Number of samples classified Grade III	3
Number of samples classified Grade IV	1

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following table shows the total number of infectious diseases notified and confirmed during the year and the numbers admitted to hospital.

Measles : 597 cases were notified. This was the highest figure since 1959.

Chicken Pox : Only 38 cases were notified, very much less than in the previous year.

Pneumonia : 37 cases were notified, the highest number since 1961.

Whooping Cough : 43 cases were notified, the highest number since 1961.

Dysentery : Only 3 cases were notified during 1965.

Smallpox, Diphtheria, Typhoid and Paratyphoid : No cases were reported as occurring in the Borough during the year.

Scabies : There were 8 cases notified as occurring in the Borough during the year and in each case treatment was provided at Ferry House Clinic

The Holland County Council provides treatment for cases of Scabies occurring in the Borough, the cost of such treatments in respect of persons other than school children being charged to the Corporation. Should medical practitioners request treatment for patients, details of notifications are immediately passed to the County Council thus ensuring that infected persons receive early treatment.

In order to prevent the spread of Infectious Disease, International Regulations require travellers to be innoculated or vaccinated against certain specified diseases such as Smallpox, Cholera and Yellow Fever. Certificates to this effect are required to be authenticated by the Medical Officer of Health and many such certificates have been completed during the year.

Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1965.

Disease	Cases Notified	Confirmed Cases	Cases admitted to Hospital
Chicken Pox	38	38	Nil
Dysentery	3	3	Nil
Food Poisoning	14	14	5
Infective Hepatitis	2	2	Nil
Measles	597	597	Nil
Meningococcal Infection	1	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	Nil
Pneumonia	37	37	7
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	Nil
Scabies	8	8	Nil
Scarlet Fever	17	17	Nil
Whooping Cough	43	43	Nil

Infectious Diseases notified 1956—1965.

Disease	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Chicken Pox	38	345	37	249	195	300	362	210	90	70
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	3	1	132	176	6	4	246	15	8	5
Encephalitis : (Post Infectious)	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	2	3	3	5	3	2	3
Food Poisoning	14	2	1	7	13	6	13	2	31	15
*Infective Hepatitis	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria (Con- tracted abroad)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Measles	597	84	242	251	486	87	633	6	723	152
Meningococcal Infection	1	2	1	4	4	—	1	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	37	13	25	29	39	26	42	51	52	38
Poliomyelitis : Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	10	16	4
Scabies	8	10	6	—	—	3	—	18	1	9
Scarlet Fever	17	7	20	47	27	56	16	15	7	15
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	43	21	1	2	43	65	—	1	145	56

* Not notifiable before 1965

TUBERCULOSIS :—

Cases notified within the Borough come under the control of Dr. A. M. Forrest, Chest Physician, South Lincolnshire Area.

TUBERCULOSIS. New Cases and Deaths.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
35—45	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total	1	4	—	1	1	—	—	—

SUMMARY OF CASES ON THE TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER 1956—1965.

Year	Cases on Register			Notifications each year			Deaths		
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total
1956	100	22	122	6	2	8	2	—	2
1957	102	20	122	10	—	10	—	—	—
1958	106	21	127	13	2	15	4	1	5
1959	118	21	139	19	—	19	3	—	3
1960	122	26	148	16	5	21	4	—	4
1961	125	26	151	11	1	12	1	—	1
1962	128	26	154	8	2	10	2	—	2
1963	126	26	152	5	1	6	2	—	2
1964	123	27	150	8	2	10	5	—	5
1965	121	27	148	5	1	6	1	—	1

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

	Males		Females		Total
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	
(a) Number of cases on Register at beginning of year	71	13	52	14	150
(b) Number of cases notified for first time in year	1	—	1	—	2
(c) Number of cases restored to Register	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Number of cases added to Register other than by formal notification	—	—	3	1	4
(e) Number of cases removed from Register during the year	3	1	4	—	8
(f) Number of cases remaining on Register on 31st Dec., 1965 ...	69	12	52	15	148

IMMUNISATION :—

All arrangements in connection with immunisation within the Borough are under the control of the Holland County Council.

The following figures, supplied by the County Health Department, give details of the number of immunisations carried out during the year.

Diphtheria :

Under 1 year ...	217
1 and under 5 years ...	191
5-14 years ...	3
	411
Number of Booster Injections ...	707

Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough :

Under 5 years ...	Nil
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Combined Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus :

Under 5 years ...	408
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Percentage of children immunised against Diphtheria in relation to the child population at 31.12.65 :—

Under 1 year ...	46.4%
------------------	-------

There was an increase in the number of immunisations carried out during the year. The number of "Booster" injections rose by over 200 to 707. The number of children immunised with the Triple Antigen also increased to 408.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX :—

Primary Vaccinations :—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	62
1 year	...	...	...	...	...	80
2-4 years	...	...	...	...	...	13
5-14 years	...	...	...	...	...	4
15 years and over	...	...	...	...	...	6
						165

Re-vaccinations :—

1 year	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
2-4 years	...	...	...	...	...	2
5-14 years	...	...	...	...	...	6
15 years and over	...	...	...	...	...	7
						15

The number of primary vaccinations fell during the year to 165. This was 53 less than in 1964. People have short memories as far as smallpox is concerned and no doubt this number will decrease further next year and only rise dramatically with the appearance of further outbreaks in the country.

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS :—

The following information has been supplied by the County Health Department.

POSITION AT 31st December, 1965.

Of the babies born in 1965 10.4% had been vaccinated at 31st December, 1965. By the 31st March, 1966 this figure had risen to 31.6%. Comparable figures for 31st December, 1964 and 31st March, 1965 of babies born in 1964 were 13.8% and 32.1%.

Other Pre-School Ages.

Born in				Percentage vaccinated
1964	...	...	...	72.4%
1963	...	...	...	72.8%
1962	...	...	...	74.6%
1961	...	...	...	81.7%

The figures of these age groups at 31st December, 1964 were :—

1964	...	...	...	13.8%
1963	...	...	...	66.3%
1962	...	...	...	70.7%
1961	...	...	...	78.3%

The above figures and those shown in the following paragraph are given to indicate the steady rise during the pre-school period, and although smaller, during the school age period :—

School Age Group.

Born in				Percentage vaccinated	
				1965	1964
1960	...	...	...	76.6	72.9
1959	...	...	...	91.7	90.0
1958	...	...	...	87.5	86.7
1957	...	...	...	93.2	92.7
1956	...	...	...	82.6	82.1
1955	...	...	...	87.8	87.3
1954	...	...	...	85.4	85.4
1953	...	...	...	88.1	87.4
1952	...	...	...	87.0	86.8
1951	...	...	...	86.5	85.8
1950	...	...	...	81.1	80.6
1949	...	...	...	73.9	73.5

The figures for immunisation against Poliomyelitis continued to remain high not only in infants but in all the school-age groups.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND OF THE
CHIEF PORT HEALTH INSPECTOR

PART II

BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1965.

BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1965.

To : The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses
of the Borough of Boston,
being the Boston Port Health Authority as constituted by
the Boston Port Orders, 1933 and 1939.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting to the Council the Annual Report of the Port Medical Officer of Health of the Boston Port Health Authority for the year ended 31st December, 1965, in accordance with Regulation 12(4) of the Public Health Officers (Port Health Districts), Regulations, 1959. The Report has been prepared with the instructions contained in Form Port 20 of the Ministry of Health.

During the year there was a slight increase in the number of ships from foreign ports entering the Dock but a decrease in the number of coastwise ships which resulted in an overall decrease in the total by 30 ships, 1,660 as compared with 1,690. Foreign tonnage amounted to 303,353 as compared with 293,038 in 1964. Coastwise tonnage in 1965 amounted to 69,120 compared with 75,564 in 1964. The total tonnage, however, increased from 368,602 in 1964 to 372,473 in 1965. The number of ships inspected amounted to 125.

No cases of notifiable infectious disease occurred in the Port during the year and no ships reported that there had been any case on board during the voyage. The Port Medical Officer boarded one ship on arrival because of sickness of a member of the crew. The cause of illness was Influenza.

The principal ports from which ships arrived remained much the same as in previous years, as also indeed did imports.

During 1965 31 Deratting Exemption Certificates were issued. 15 notices in respect of nuisances were served and in 9 cases these were complied with but in the remaining 6 cases the ships in question sailed before completion.

I should like to express my thanks to the members of the Public Health Department, Officers of H.M. Customs, Water-guard, the Port Manager and his Staff and all others connected with the Port for their assistance during 1965.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. HIRD,

Port Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,

6, Bridge Street,

BOSTON, Lincs.

March, 1966.

SECTION I—Staff.

TABLE A.

Name of officer	Nature of appointment.	Date of appointment.	Qualifications.	Any other appointments held.
HIRD, G.	Port Medical Officer of Health.	1.5.58.	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Assistant C.M.O.—Holland County Council. Medical Officer of Health—Borough of Boston. Medical Officer of Health—Boston R.D.C.
CHAMBERLAIN, G. E.	Chief Port Health Inspector.	15.10.45.	Cert.S.I.B., Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.	Chief Public Health Inspector—Borough of Boston.
MILSOM, D. H.	Deputy Chief Port Health Inspector.	1.10.59.	Cert.S.I.B., Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.	Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector—Borough of Boston.
THOMSETT, C. E.	Additional Port Health Inspector.	12.10.64.	Cert. P.H.I.E.B. Dip. Meat & Food Inspection.	Additional Public Health Inspector—Borough of Boston.

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health

Public Health Department,
6 Bridge Street, BOSTON, Lincs.
BOSTON 4601 (six lines).

SECTION II—Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Port Health Inspectors	
Foreign Ports	1,352	303,353	1	112	Nil
Coastwise	308	69,120	Nil	12	Nil
Total	1,660	372,473	1	124	Nil

SECTION III—Character of shipping and trade during the year.

TABLE C.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC	Number of passengers INWARDS : 75 Number of passengers OUTWARDS : 58
CARGO TRAFFIC	Principal IMPORTS : Battens and Boards, Bulbs, Cement, Deals, Fertilisers, Fruit and Vegetables, Glucose, Grain, Perlite, Pig Iron, Potatoes, Salt, Sand, Sleepers, Starch, Steel, Telegraph Poles and General. Principal EXPORTS : Cattle, Sheep and Pigs, Grain, Pig Iron, Sand, Steel, Sugar Beet Pulp and General.
PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive	ALGERIA : Algiers. BALEARIC ISLANDS : Palma. BELGIUM : Antwerp, Brussels, Bruge, Nieuport. CANADA : Mont Louis. FINLAND : Hamina, Haukipudas, Helsinki, Kasko. Mantyluoto, Pateniemi, Rauma. FRANCE : Bayonne. GERMANY : Bremen, Hamburg, Stralsund, Wismar. HOLLAND : Amsterdam, Delfzijl, Groningen, Koog Aan De Zaan, Maassluis, Rotterdam. MOROCCO : Casablanca. NORWAY : Aaheim, Oslo, Skien. POLAND : Danzig, Gdynia, Stettin. PORTUGAL : Leixoes. RUSSIA : Archangel, Igarka, Leningrad. SARDINIA : Cagliari. SPAIN : Almeria, Carthagena. SWEDEN : Burea, Gefle, Gothenburg, Halmstad, Kage, Karlskrona, Kalmar, Ronneby.

SECTION IV—Inland barge traffic.

No inland barge traffic entered the port during the year.

SECTION V—Water supply.

1. Source of supply for

- (a) **The District.**
- (b) **Shipping.**

The supply for both (a) and (b) is obtained from the East Lincolnshire Water Board.

2. Reports of tests for contamination.

Frequent bacteriological examinations of the water are carried out and all the reports have been satisfactory.

3. Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.

All such fittings are properly housed in protective boxes to prevent contamination. All receive constant flushing by regular use, and are generally maintained in a satisfactory condition.

4. Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.

There are no water boats in the Port.

SECTION VI—Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

1. List of Infected Areas. (Regulation 6).

Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure for supplying it to those persons.

The Port Manager, the Pilot Master and H.M. Customs are each supplied with a list of infected areas which is amended as necessary from the Weekly Epidemiological Record published by the World Health Organisation.

2. Radio Messages.

- (a) **Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district. (Regulation 13).**
- (b) **Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14(1)(a) and (2)).**

Boston is not a radio transmitting or receiving port.

3. Notifications otherwise than by radio. (Regulation 14 (1) (b)). **Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.**

The Pilot Boarding Station, 5 miles from the Port in the Wash, is connected by radio telephone with the Dock Master's Office and information of vessels requiring special attention is transmitted by the pilots. The Medical Officer is immediately informed by telephone and the vessel can be sent to the Quarantine Station to await the Medical Officer.

**4. Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30).
Situation of stations, and any standing directions issued under these Regulations.**

- (a) **Within the Docks :** The vacant berth in Boston Dock.
- (b) **Outside the Docks :** The Quarantine Station—"Clay Hole".

5. Arrangements for :—

- (a) **Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox—see Section VII) :**

Such accommodation is available at the White House Hospital, Fishoft.

- (b) **Surveillance and follow up of contacts :**

All contacts are interrogated personally, and are fully informed as to their obligations. At the same time a note is taken of the address to which each is proceeding, and if this is situated outside the area of the Authority, prompt notification of the fact is given to the Local Authority concerned. A supply of pre-paid printed postcards is available, and one is issued in every case to enable the Port Medical Officer to be notified of any change of address.

- (c) **Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles :**

The cleansing and disinfection of ships is carried out by the Port Health Authority's staff under the supervision of the Chief Port Health Inspector.

Clothing, bedding and other portable articles are dealt with at the disinfecting station.

Arrangements have been made for the cleansing of verminous persons at the Health Centre, London Road.

SECTION VII—Smallpox.

1. Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.

The Laceby Smallpox Hospital is due to close in the very near future and the hospital to which cases would be sent from this district is Blaby Hospital, Blaby, Leicestershire.

2. Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

The transport of all cases of smallpox is the responsibility of the Holland County Council who will provide ambulances together with specially trained and vaccinated crews.

3. Names of smallpox consultants available.

Dr. G. Nisbet, Bridge Street, Peterborough.

4. Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

Where laboratory diagnosis is required specimens are sent to Professor A. W. Downie, Department of Bacteriology, Medical School, Ashton Street, Liverpool, 3.

SECTION VIII—Venereal Disease.

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

Arrangements for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease are administered by the Boston Group Hospital Management Committee of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

Out-patient clinics are conducted at London Road Hospital, Boston, at 4.30 p.m. each Tuesday. If necessary special appointments are made for seamen unable to attend the fixed clinics.

In-patient treatment can be arranged by the Grimsby Hospital Management Committee.

In order to acquaint seamen with all details of facilities available to them, suitable posters are displayed in various parts of the Dock premises. The information is also brought to the notice of masters of vessels in the course of inspections.

SECTION IX—Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships.

TABLE D.

Category.	Disease	Number of cases during the year.		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

No cases of Smallpox, Cholera, Plague, Yellow Fever, Typhus or Relapsing Fever occurred during the year 1965.

SECTION X—Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships.

There have been no cases of Malaria occurring on any arriving ship.

SECTION XI—Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague.

No "infected" or "suspected" ships entered the port during 1965.

SECTION XII—Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports.

1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

All ships from “infected ports” are searched for evidence of rats (excreta, gnawings, runs, etc.) and traps are set for confirmation of findings. Similar precautions are taken if the crew or stevedores report indications of rats on other ships or if routine inspections reveal suspicious circumstances.

2. Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

Bodies of rodents are sent for routine examination for plague to the Public Health Laboratory, St. Anne’s Road, Lincoln, but during 1965 no bodies were recovered from ships using the port.

3. Arrangements in the district for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.

Boston is not a designated approved port and there are no standing arrangements for the deratting of ships.

4. Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

Any work found to be necessary is carried out under the supervision of the Chief Port Health Inspector.

TABLE E.
Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category.	Number.
Black rats	Nil.
Brown rats	Nil.
Species not known	Nil.
Sent for examination	Nil.
Infected with plague	Nil.

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

Boston is not a designated approved port and therefore no Deratting Certificates have been issued.

Net tonnage.	No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued.
Ships up to 300 tons	17
Ships from 301—1,000 tons	13
Ships from 1,001—3,000 tons	1
Total	31

SECTION XIII—Inspection of ships for nuisances.

TABLE G.

Inspections and Notices.

Nature and number of nuisances found.		Notices served		Result of serving Notices
		Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Defects of Original Construction	Nil	Nil	Nil	—
Structural Defects through wear and tear	9	Nil	9	4 repairs carried out. 5 sailed before completion
Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health	6	Nil	6	5 complied with 1 sailed before completion
Total	15	Nil	15	9 complied with 6 not complied with

SECTION XIV—Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948.

There are Mussel and Cockle Beds within the Area of the Port Health Authority in the Wash. These are periodically inspected and samples of the shell-fish are taken for analysis.

No action was necessary during the year 1965, either under the Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948, or the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

SECTION XV—Medical Inspection of Aliens.

The Port of Boston is not an approved port, under the Aliens Order, 1920, for the landing of aliens.

SECTION XVI—Miscellaneous.

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

Satisfactory arrangements can be made for the interment of dead at the Boston Corporation Cemetery.

Food Inspection.

A list of the principal food imports appears in Table C on page 36. The main items of food were as follows :—

	Tons
Grain (in)	39,529
Grain (out)	7,993
Fresh Fruit and Vegetables	26,556
Potatoes	5,588
Onions	15,237
Vegetables in Brine	454
Vegetable Puree	215
Dehydrated Vegetables	185
Fruit in Tins	1,348
Dried Fruit	36
Meat in Tins	40
Canned Fish	360
Frozen Foods	105
Butter	292
Lard and Dripping	45
Starch	14,846
Glucose	4,068
Confectionery	224
Beer	336
Miscellaneous	50

During the year the following amounts of foodstuffs were found to be unfit and were destroyed :—

Onions	22 tons 15 cwts. 3 qrs.
Potatoes	8 cwts.
Carrots	1 ton.
Apples	10 cwts. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.
Lemons	31 cartons.
Melons	161 cases.
	73
Grapefruit	102 cases.
Grapes	15 trays.
Peaches	16 trays.

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